



BROADSTAIRS & ST. PETER'S  
TOWN COUNCIL

## COUNCIL MINUTES

**MONDAY 22<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2021**

Present: Cllrs, Bailey, B Bayford, J Bayford, R Binks, R. K. Binks, Garner, Rawf, D Saunders, M Saunders, Savage, Dexter, P. Moore, W. Moore, Parsons.

Town Clerk: Kirsty Holroyd

### **473. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr Buckley was unable to attend the meeting due to technical issues

### **474. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None received

### **475. OPENESS AND TRANSPARENCY**

The Chairman reminded those present of the right to record, film or broadcast any meetings of the Council, committees and subcommittees is established following the Local Government Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

### **476. MINUTES**

Members received and considered the minutes of the Council meeting held on 25th January 2021

**RESOLVED: that the minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman at the next opportunity.**

### **477. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES**

Members received the minutes of the following Committee Meetings:

- Finance and General Purposes Committee held on the 25 January 2021 (confirmed) and 15 February 2021 (to be confirmed on 22 March)
- Planning Committee held on 11 February 2021 (confirmed) and 11 March 2021 (unconfirmed)
- Community Assets Committee held on the 11th February 2021 (confirmed) and 10 March 2021 (unconfirmed)

**RESOLVED: Members agreed to note.**

### **478. QUESTIONS**

None received

### **479. COMMUNICATIONS**

The Chairman reported that he had represented the Council at several social and civic events over the last two months. All events had been held remotely.

**480. ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION GROUP**

Cllr Moore explained that this item had been deferred to the next meeting

**481. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN CONSULTATION**

Danielle Dunn, the Council's Neighbourhood Plan consultant attended the meeting and explained that she and the Town Clerk had recently been notified by TDC that the first edition of the Neighbourhood Plan would proceed to referendum on May 6. This was due to a process which had been initiated prior to the Covid restrictions and which TDC was unable to halt unless the plan was withdrawn. It was explained that although, due to the lapse of time, the plan in question was now due for update, the update itself would take some time to pull together. The benefit of having the first edition taken through a referendum would outweigh any disadvantages.

**RESOLVED: To let the Plan proceed to referendum thereby formalising its contents in terms of planning legislation.**

**482. GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE**

The Town Clerk explained that although the Council had been without a qualified Clerk for a couple of months, it was possible now to reinstate the General Power of Competence.

**RESOLVED: That since it now meets the requirements to qualify for the General Power of Competence, the Council wishes to readopt it.**

**483. REMOTE MEETING PLATFORMS**

Members discussed the relative merits of each platform but had varying opinions on which worked best. It was also not clear whether switching platform would necessarily increase the clarity of each councillor's connection. It was agreed that Zoom is the most accessible platform for larger public meetings but that the link must be removed from the agenda and will only be made available to those members of the public who request it.

**RESOLVED: That the Council try Zoom for the Town Forum and review the situation afterwards**

**484. ROADMAP TOWARDS LIVE MEETINGS**

The Town Clerk explained that the legislation currently permitting Councils to meet remotely was due to expire on May 6 2021. It was not yet clear whether it would be extended, but NALC's advice is to plan for face-to-face meetings from 7 May. This has an impact on the Annual Meeting scheduled for Monday 17 May. The Town Clerk explained that Pierremont Hall would only be able to offer places for thirty people in total so she had made enquiries about the availability of The Pavillion.

Members also discussed the possibility of splitting the role of Chairman and Mayor for the Civic Year 2021/22. The Town Clerk reported that she would like to take legal advice from NALC for which permission from Council would be necessary.

**RESOLVED :**

**i) That the Town Clerk be permitted to approach NALC to ask for legal advice on the matter.**

**ii) That due to this outstanding query and the doubt over whether the meeting will be remote or face-to-face, an extra Council meeting will be held on April 22.**

**485 PRIVATE MOTION: PLASTIC FREE BROADSTAIRS**

Members considered a proposal from Cllr Garner -That this Council will become a "single-use plastic free" Council by phasing out the use of "single use plastic" (SUP) products such as bottles, cups, cutlery and drinking straws in council activities, where it is reasonable to do so, by end 2021, and to encourage our facilities' users, local businesses and other local public agencies to do the same, by championing alternatives, such as reusable water bottles"

Councillors were broadly in favour of the move and had plenty of ideas as to how it could be promoted and implemented.

**RESOLVED: That the proposal be approved and the Council start to move towards a zero use of single use plastics in its own business dealings.**

**The following item was discussed following a resolution to exclude the public under Standing Order 3d due to the confidential nature of the business.**

**486. STAFF ISSUES**

See confidential minutes

**487. TENANCIES**

See confidential minutes

**Members of the public were readmitted to the meeting**

**488. PROPOSED FORWARD AGENDA ITEMS**

The date of the next meeting will be 22 April 2021

Town Clerk  
Meeting closed at 20.47

Meeting was recorded: ~~yes~~/no  
Members of the public were present: yes/~~no~~  
Members of the press were present: ~~yes~~/no